



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
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CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

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REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

APR 9 1992

HSRM-6J

James L. Warner, P.E.
Division Manager
Groundwater and Solid Waste Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Road
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155-3898

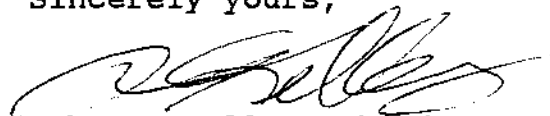
RE: Preliminary Close Out Report for the Whittaker Corporation
Superfund Site

Dear Mr. Warner:

Enclosed is an executed copy of the Preliminary Close Out Report for the Whittaker Corporation Superfund Site. The Preliminary Close Out Report is usually developed at the construction completion stage of the project. While the Whittaker site construction has been completed since 1985 and is presently in long term response, it was agreed based upon a previous discussion with your staff that the development of the Interim Close Out Report would be undertaken following completion of a five-year review scheduled for this summer.

Thank you for the effort your staff put into the development of this report. We look forward to the same close coordination throughout the final phases of the project.

Sincerely yours,


John R. Kelley, Chief
Minnesota/Ohio Response Branch

Enclosure

cc: Awilda Fuentes, OERR

**Superfund Preliminary Site Close Out Report
Whittaker Corporation
Minneapolis, Minnesota**

I. Summary of Site Conditions

Background

The Whittaker Superfund Site is a 7.5 acre closed former industrial facility located in Minneapolis at 3134 California Street Northeast. The facility, acquired by Whittaker Corporation, in 1967 from American Petrochemical Corporation produced a wide variety products including anti-freeze, industrial coatings and resins. Whittaker operated the facility until 1980.

Whittaker utilized large quantities of chemicals in its operation and stored the raw materials in 28 above and 21 below ground tanks. Chemicals stored and used as raw materials include hydrocarbon solvents, propylene glycol, styrene monomer, di-isobutyl ketone, methyl ethyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone, toluene, and xylene.

Waste generated from the processes include tank bottoms, paint sludges, old paints, off-specification paints and resins, and cleaning fluids. Waste was disposed of on-site at the facility and occasional spills occurred during Whittaker's years of operation. The facility was placed on the National Priorities List on September 21, 1984 after being proposed on September 8, 1983.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) issued a Request For Response Action (RFRA) on April 23, 1985 which was amended on November 26, 1985. The RFRA was issued instead of executing a Record of Decision. The RFRA addressed source areas and groundwater.

Remedial Planning/Construction Activities

The Whittaker Corporation began investigating contamination at the facility prior to the RFRA. Soil sampling and monitoring well installation was included in the preliminary investigation. The Remedial Investigation began in January 1985 under the direction of MPCA. The investigation included removal of underground storage tanks, installation of additional monitoring wells, soil borings and trench excavation. The site cleanup called a Response Action began in April 1985. The Response Action consisted of the following components:

- Approximately 600 damaged drums and drum remnants were excavated and disposed of off-site at a permitted RCRA facility.
- Excavation of visible contaminated soils surrounding

the drums with disposal at a permitted RCRA facility.

- Physical separation of resins from soils with the resins being disposed of in a permitted RCRA facility.
- Off-site incineration of 25 drums of recovered solvents.
- Excavation and thermal processing of soils on-site in a aggregate dryer. After drying, soils were landfarmed on-site to volatilize organics until testing verified that a leachate generated from the soils had a xylene concentration of less than 0.5 milligrams per liter.
- Installation of a groundwater pump and treat system using two air strippers in series. A greater than 99% removal efficiency has been achieved at a pumping rate of approximately 100 gallons per minute. The system began operation on May 9, 1985 and the response action levels have not been achieved. The response levels are as follows:
 - Xylene - 500 ug/l
 - Ethylbenzene - 1,400 ug/l
 - Toluene - 14,300 ug/l
 - Benzene - 6.6 ug/l

A total of approximately 280 cubic yards of waste material was shipped off-site to a permitted RCRA facility. All excavation and processing of waste material was done onsite.

II. Demonstration of QA/QC From Cleanup Activities

Quality Assurance/Quality Control procedures were followed during the response action and the subsequent monitoring program. Air monitoring analysis during the cleanup activities indicated that Threshold Limit Values were not exceeded. Sampling of soil and water followed the U.S. EPA protocol "Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Wastes, Physical/ Chemical Methods (SW 846)".

The QA/QC procedures and protocol are described in the Remedial Investigation/Response Action Plan dated June 1985. The QA/QC program utilized throughout the response action was sufficiently rigorous and was adequately complied with to enable the MPCA to determine that all analytical results reported were accurate to the degree needed to assure satisfactory execution of the remedial action.

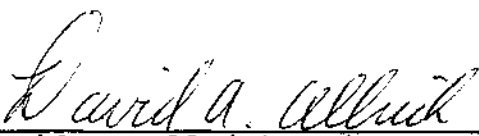
III. Monitoring Results

Presently, nine monitoring wells are sampled annually and the recovery well and sump near the treatment system are sampled

quarterly at the Whittaker facility. Toluene, ethylbenzene, and total xylene are sampled for in all monitoring wells and in the sump. In addition to the three sampled analytes, the sump is monitored for 1,2 dichloroethylene and trichloroethylene. Groundwater will be extracted and treated until the response levels are achieved.

IV. Activities and Schedule for Site Completion

Long term operation and maintenance of the groundwater pump and treat system and sampling of the groundwater wells is under the direction of the MPCA. A five year review pursuant to OSWER Directive 9355.7-02 ("Structure and Components of Five Year Review") will be conducted in the summer of 1992. Once the five year review is completed, an Interim Close Out Report will be completed.



David A. Ullrich, Director
Waste Management Division

4/7/92

Date